

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-30

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S/S-O:KAKURZE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

S E C R E T STATE 143511

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, LA

SUBJECT: VIEWS OF KHAMPAN PANYA

1. WE UNDERSTAND THAT KHAMPAN PANYA, CURRENTLY MAKING HIS FAREWELLS IN PARIS, WILL SHORTLY RETURN TO VIENTIANE TO RECEIVE HIS LETTER OF CREDENCE AND HOLD CONSULTATIONS PRIOR TO PROCEEDING TO WASHINGTON TO TAKE UP HIS NEW DUTIES. KHAMPAN IS WELL REGARDED BY BOTH SOUVANNA AND THE KING FOR HIS GOOD JUDGEMENT AND POLITICAL ACUMEN. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO OUR UNDERSTANDING THE SITUATION TO KNOW HIS VIEWS ON IT.

2. WHEN KHAMPAN RETURNS TO VIENTIANE YOU SHOULD TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO HOLD A TOUR D'HORIZON WITH HIM. DISCUSSIONS COULD BE HELD BOTH SHORTLY AFTER KHAMPAN'S RETURN (BEFORE HE SEES THE KING) AND AFTER HE HAS PAID HIS CALL ON THE KING.

3. WE WOULD FIND KHAMPAN'S VIEWS AND HIS UNDERSTANDING OF THE KING'S VIEWS ON THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS ESPECIALLY INTERESTING: THE GENERAL CONDUCT AND INTENTIONS OF THE LPF; SOUPHANOUVONG'S ATTITUDES AND LONG RANGE PLANS; THE CON-
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STITUTION AND ATTEMPTS TO MODIFY IT, ESPECIALLY WITH REGARD

TO THE STATUS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND SOUVANNA'S PLANS
TO ABOLISH IT AND ENLARGE THE JNPC; AND THE DEGREE OF
SUCCESS OF AND PROBLEMS ATTENDANT TO EFFORTS BY THE NON-

COMMUNISTS TO COUNTER THE LPF. SISCO

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NNN

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